

VIR

4. Unjustly assailant; murderous.
Some *violent* hands were laid on Humphry's life. *Shakefp.*
A foe subtle or *violent*. *Milton.*
5. Unequally vehement.
We might be reckoned fierce and *violent*, to tear away that, which, if our mouths did condemn, our consciences would storm and repine thereat. *Hooker.*
The covetous extortioner should remember, that such *violents* shall not take heaven, but hell by force. *Decay of Piety.*
6. Extorted; not voluntary.
Vows made in pain, are *violent* and void. *Milton.*
- VIOLENTLY*, *adv.* [from *violent*.] With force; forcibly; vehemently.
Temp'rately proceed to what you would.
Thus *violently* redress. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*
Flame burneth more *violently* towards the sides, than in the midst. *Bacon.*
Ancient privileges must not, without great necessities, be revoked, nor forfeitures be exacted *violently*, nor penal laws urged rigorously. *Taylor's Rule of living holy.*
- VIOLET*, *n. f.* [*viollette*, Fr. *viola*, Lat.] A plant.
It hath a polypetalous anomalous flower, somewhat resembling the papilionaceous flower; for its two upper petals represent the standard, the two side ones the wings; but the lower one, which ends in a tail, resembles the iris. Out of the empalement arises the pointal, which becomes a three-cornered fruit opening into three parts, and full of roundish seeds. There are nine species. *Miller.*
When daisies pied, and *violets* blue,
Do paint the meadows much bedight. *Shakefp.*
Sweet echo, sweetest nymph that liv'st unseen,
By flow Meander's margent green,
And in the *violet*-embroider'd vale. *Milton.*
It alters not our simple idea, whether we think that blue be in the *violet* itself, or in our mind only; and only the power of producing it by the texture of its parts, to be in the *violet* itself. *Locke.*
- VIOLIN*, *n. f.* [*violon*, Fr. from *viol*.] A fiddle; a stringed instrument of musick.
Praise with timbrels, organs, flutes;
Praise with *violins*, and lutes. *Sandys.*
Sharp *violins* proclaim
Their jealous pangs, and desperation,
For the fair disdainful dame. *Dryden.*
- VIOLINIST*, *n. f.* [from *viol*.] A player on the viol.
- VIOLOCE'LLO*, *n. f.* [Italian.] A stringed instrument of musick.
- VIPER*, *n. f.* [*vipera*, Lat.]
1. A serpent of that species which brings its young alive, of which most are poisonous.
A *viper* came out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. *Acts xxviii. 3.*
He'll gall of asps with thrifty lips suck in;
The *viper's* deadly teeth shall pierce his skin. *Sandys.*
Viper-catchers have a remedy, in which they place such great confidence, as to be no more afraid of the bite of a *viper*, than of a common puncture. This is no other than axungia viperina, presently rubbed into the wound. *Derham.*
2. Any thing mischievous.
Where is this *viper*,
That would depopulate the city, and
Be every man himself? *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*
- VIPERINE*, *n. f.* [*viperinus*, Lat.] Belonging to a viper.
- VIPEROUS*, *adj.* [*viperous*, Lat. from *viper*.] Having the qualities of a *viper*.
My tender years can tell,
Civil dissention is a *viperous* worm,
That gnaws the bowels of the commonwealth. *Shakefp.*
We are peremptory to dispatch
This *viperous* traitor. *Shakefp.*
Some *viperous* critick may bereave
Th' opinion of thy worth for some defect. *Daniel's Musaph.*
- VIPER'S BUGLOSS*, *n. f.* [*echium*, Lat.] A plant.
The characters are, the cup of the flower is large, and divided into five long slender segments; the flower consists of one leaf, is shaped like a funnel, and somewhat inflected, having its upper part stretched, but in a greater length than the lower: the upper part, or galea of the flower, is divided into two; and the lower part, or beard, into three parts: in the middle of the flower are produced five stamina (or threads) which are reflexed. Each flower is succeeded by four seeds, which are in form of a viper's head. *Miller.*
- VIPER'S GRASS*, *n. f.* [*scorzonera*, Lat.] A plant.
It hath a semi-floiculous flower, consisting of many half florets, which rest upon the embryos, which are included in one common empalement, which is scaly: the embryos afterwards become oblong seeds, which are furnished with down. *Miller.*
- VIRAGO*, *n. f.* [Latin.]
1. A female warrior; a woman with the qualities of a man.
Melpomene represented like a *virago* or manly lady, with a majestic and grave countenance. *Peacham.*

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- To arms! to arms! the fierce *virago* cries,
And swift as lightning to the combat flies. *Pope.*
2. It is commonly used in detestation for an impudent turbulent woman.
VIR'ELAY, *n. f.* [*virolay*, *virolai*, Fr.] A sort of little ancient French poem, that consisted only of two rhymes and short verses, with strops. *L'Acad.*
The mournful music in mirth now lift ne mask,
As she was wont in youth and summer days;
But if thou algate lust like *virolays*,
And looser songs of love to underlong,
The band of flutes began to play,
To which a lady sung a *virolay*. *Spenser.*
And still at ev'ry close she would repeat
The burden of the song, the daisy is so sweet. *Dryden.*- VIRENT*, *adj.* [*virens*, Lat.] Green; not faded.
In these, yet fresh and *virent*, they carve out the figures of men and women. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- VIRGE*, *n. f.* [*virga*, Lat. better *verge*, from *verge*, French.] A dean's mace.
Suppose him now a dean compleat,
Devoutly lolling in his seat;
The silver *virge*, with decent pride,
Stuck underneath his cushion side. *Swift.*
- VIRGIN*, *n. f.* [*virgo*, Fr. *virgo*, Lat.]
1. A maid; a woman unacquainted with men.
This aspect of mine hath fear'd the valiant;
The best regarded *virgins* of our clime
Have lov'd it too. *Shakefp.*
Senseless bauble!
Art thou a fadary for this act, and look't
So *virgin*-like without? *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
The damsel was very fair, and a *virgin*. *Gen. xxiv. 16.*
Angelo is an adulterous thief,
An hypocrite, a *virgin* violator.
Much less can that have any place,
At which a *virgin* hides her face. *Shakefp.*
- 2. A woman not a mother. Unusual.
Liket to Ceres in her prime,
Yet *virgin* of Proserpina from Jove. *Milton.*
- 3. Any thing untouched or unmingled.
Tapers of white wax, commonly called *virgin* wax, burn with less smoke than common yellow wax. *Boyle.*
I have found *virgin* earth in the peat-marshes of Cheshire. *Woodward.*
- 4. The sign of the zodiack in which the sun is in August.
Thence down again by Leo and the *Virgin*. *Milton.*
- VIRGIN*, *adj.* Begetting a virgin; suitable to a virgin; maidenly.
Can you blame her then, being a maid, yet rosed over with the *virgin* crimson of modesty, if she deny the appearance of a naked blind boy. *Shakefp. Hen. V.*
What says the silver with her *virgin* hue?
With ease a brother o'ercame
The formal decencies of *virgin*-shame. *Cowley.*
- To *VIRGIN*, *v. n.* [a cant word.] To play the virgin.
A kiss
Long as my exile, sweet as my revenge!
I carried from thee, my dear; and my true lip
Hath *virgin'd* it e'er since. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*
- VIRGINAL*, *adj.* [from *virgin*.] Maidenly; pertaining to a virgin.
On the earth more fair was never seen,
Of chastity and honour *virginal*. *Fairy Queen.*
Tears *virginal*
Shall be to me even as the dew to fire;
And beauty, that the tyrant oft reclaims,
Shall to my flaming wrath be oil and flax. *Shakefp.*
Purity is a special part of this superstructure, restraining of all desires of the flesh within the known limits of conjugal or *virginal* chastity. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*
- To *VIRGINAL*, *v. n.* To pat; to strike as on the virginal.
A cant word.
Still *virginal*ling upon thy palm. *Shakefp.*
- VIRGINAL*, *n. f.* [more usually *virginals*.] A musical instrument so called, because commonly used by young ladies.
The musician hath produced two means of straining strings. The one is stopping them with the finger, as in the necks of lutes and viols; the other is the shortness of the string, as in harps and *virginals*. *Bacon.*
- VIRGINITY*, *n. f.* [*virginitas*, Lat.] Maidenhead; unacquaintance with man.
You do impeach your modesty too much,
To trust the opportunity of night,
And the ill counsel of a desert place,
With the rich worth of your *virginity*. *Shakefp.*
Natural *virginity* of itself is not a state more acceptable to God; but that which is chosen in order to the conveniences of religion, and separation from worldly incumbrances. *Taylor.*
- VIRILE*, *n. f.* [*virilis*, Lat.] Belonging to man; not puerile; not feminine. *VIRILITY.*

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- VIRILITY*, *n. f.* [*virilitas*, Fr. *virilitas*, Lat. from *virile*.]
1. Manhood; character of man.
The lady made generous advances to the borders of *virility*. *Rambler.*- 2. Power of procreation.
The great climacterical was past, before they begat children, or gave any testimony of their *virility*; for none begat children before the age of sixty-five. *Brown.*
- VIRMI'LION*, *n. f.* Properly *vermilion*. A red colour.
Egle, the fairest Nais of the flood,
With a *vermilion* dye his temples stain'd. *Rescommon.*
- VIR'TUAL*, *adj.* [*virtuel*, Fr. from *virtue*.] Having the efficacy without the sensible or material part.
Metalline waters have *virtual* cold in them. Put therefore wood into smith's water, and try whether it will not harden. *Bacon.*
Heat and cold have a *virtual* transition, without communication of substance. *Bacon.*
Love not the heav'nly spirits? And how their love
Express they? by looks only? or, do they mix
Irradiance? *virtual*, or immediate touch? *Milton.*
Every kind that lives,
Fomented by his *virtual* pow'r, and warm'd. *Milton.*
Neither an actual or *virtual* intention of the mind, but only that which may be gathered from the outward acts. *Stillingsfleet.*
- VIR'TUALITY*, *n. f.* [from *virtual*.] Efficacy.
In one grain of corn there lieth dormant a *virtuality* of many other, and from thence sometimes proceed an hundred ears. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
- VIR'TUALLY*, *adv.* [from *virtual*.] In effect, though not formally.
They are *virtually* contained in other words still continued. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*
Such is our constitution, that the bulk of the people *virtually* give their approbation to every thing they are bound to obey. *Addison.*
- To *VIR'TUATE*, *v. a.* [from *virtue*.] To make efficacious.
Potable gold should be endued with a capacity of being assimilated to the innate heat, and radical moisture; or at least *virtuated* with a power of generating the said essential. *Harvey.*
- VIR'TUE*, *n. f.* [*virtus*, Lat.]
1. Moral goodness.
Either I'm mistaken, or there is *virtue* in that Falstaff. *Shakefp.*
If there's a power above us,
And that there is, all nature cries aloud
Through all her works, he must delight in *virtue*,
And that which he delights in must be happy. *Addison.*
Virtue only makes our bliss below.
The character of prince Henry is improved by *Shakefp.*; and through the veil of his vices and irregularities, we see a dawn of greatness and *virtue*. *Shakefp. illustrated.*
- 2. A particular moral excellence.
In Belmont is a lady,
And she is fair, and fairer than that word,
Of wondrous *virtues*. *Shakefp. Merchant of Venice.*
Remember all his *virtues*,
And shew mankind that goodness is your care. *Addison.*
- 3. Medicinal quality.
All blest secrets,
All you unpublisch'd *virtues* of the earth,
Be aidant and remediate. *Shakefp. K. Lear.*
The virtuous bezoar is taken from the beast that feedeth upon the mountains; and that without *virtue* from those that feed in the valleys. *Bacon.*
- 4. Medicinal efficacy.
An essay writer must practise the chymical method, and give the *virtue* of a full draught in a few drops. *Addison.*
- 5. Efficacy; power.
If neither words, nor herbs will do, I'll try stones; for there's a *virtue* in them. *L'Estrange.*
Where there is a full purpose to please God, there, what a man can do, shall, by *virtue* thereof, be accepted. *South.*
They are not sure, by *virtue* of syllogism, that the conclusion certainly follows from the premises. *Locke.*
This they shall attain, partly in *virtue* of the promise made by God; and partly in *virtue* of piety. *Asterbury.*
He used to travel through Greece, by *virtue* of this fable, which procured him reception in all the towns. *Addison.*
- 6. Acting power.
Jesus knowing that *virtue* had gone out of him, turned him about. *Mark v. 30.*
- 7. Secret agency; efficacy, without visible or material action.
She moves the body, which she doth possess;
Yet no part toucheth, but by *virtue's* touch. *Davies.*
- 8. Bravery; valour.
Trust to thy single *virtue*; for thy soldiers
Took their discharge. *Shakefp. K. Lear.*
The conquest of Palestine, with singular *virtue* they performed, and held that kingdom some few generations. *Raleigh.*
- 9. Excellence; that which gives excellence.
In the Greek poets, as also in Plautus, the oeconomy of poems is better observed than in Terence; who thought the

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- sole grace and *virtue* of their fable, the sticking in of sentences, as ours do the forcing in of jests. *B. Johnson.*- 10. One of the orders of the celestial hierarchy.
Thrones, domination, principdoms, *virtues*, pow'rs. *Milt.*
A winged *virtue* through th' etherial sky,
From orb to orb unwearied dost thou fly. *Tickell.*
- VIR'TUELESS*, *adj.* [from *virtue*.]
1. Wanting virtue; deprived of virtue.
2. Not having efficacy; without operating qualities.
All second causes, together with nature herself, without that operative faculty which God gave them, would become altogether silent, *virtueless*, and dead. *Raleigh.*
Virtueless the wilt all herbs and charms,
Wherewith false men increase their patients harms. *Fairfax.*
Some would make those glorious creatures *virtueless*. *Hakewill.*
- VIR'TUOSO*, *n. f.* [Italian.] A man skilled in antique or natural curiosities; a man studious of painting, statuary, or architecture.
Methinks those generous *virtuosi* dwell in a higher region than other mortals. *Glanville.*
Virtuosi, the Italians call a man who loves the noble arts, and is a critick in them. And amongst our French painters, the word *virtuous* is understood in the same signification. *Dryd.*
This building was beheld with admiration by the *virtuosi* of that time. *Tatler, N^o. 52.*
Showers of rain are now met with in every water-work; and the *virtuosi* of France covered a little vault with artificial snow. *Addison.*
- VIR'TUOUS*, *adj.* [from *virtue*.]
1. Morally good.
If his occasion were not *virtuous*,
I should not urge it half so faithfully. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
Virtuous and holy, be thou conqueror. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*
What she wills to do or say,
Is wisest, *virtuous*, discreetest, best. *Milton.*
Favour'd of heav'n, who finds
One *virtuous* rarely found,
That in domestic good combines:
Happy that house! his way to peace is smooth. *Milton.*
- 2. [Applied to women.] Chaste.
Mistress Ford, the modest wife, the *virtuous* creature, that hath the jealous fool to her husband! *Shakefp.*
- 3. Done in consequence of moral goodness.
Nor love is always of a vicious kind,
But oft to *virtuous* acts inflames the mind. *Dryden.*
- 4. Efficacious; powerful.
With one *virtuous* touch, th' arch-chemic sun,
Produces, with terrestrial humour mix'd,
Here in the dark, so many precious things. *Milton.*
- 5. Having wonderful or eminent properties.
Out of his hand,
That *virtuous* steel he rudely snatch'd away. *Fairy Queen.*
Lifting up his *virtuous* staff on high,
He smote the sea, which calmed was with speed. *Spenser.*
He own'd that *virtuous* ring and glass. *Milton.*
- 6. Having medicinal qualities.
Some observe that there is a *virtuous* bezoar, and another without virtue; the *virtuous* is taken from the beast that feedeth where there are theriacal herbs; and that without virtue, from those that feed where no such herbs are. *Bacon.*
The ladies fought around
For *virtuous* herbs, which, gather'd from the ground,
They squeeze'd the juice; and cooling ointment made. *Dryd.*
- VIR'TUOUSLY*, *adv.* [from *virtuous*.] In a virtuous manner; according to the rules of virtue.
The Gods are my witnesses, I desire to do *virtuously*. *Sidney.*
In sum, they taught the world no less *virtuously* how to die, than they had done before how to live. *Hooker.*
They that mean *virtuously*, and yet do so,
The devil their virtue tempts not, they tempt heav'n. *Shak.*
Not from grey hairs authority doth flow,
Nor from bald heads, nor from a wrinkled brow;
But our past life, when *virtuously* spent,
Must to our age those happy fruits present. *Denham.*
The coffee-man has a little daughter four years old, who has been *virtuously* educated. *Addison.*
- VIR'TUOUSNESS*, *n. f.* [from *virtuous*.] The state or character of being virtuous.
Many other adventures are intermeddled; as the love of Britomert, and *virtuousness* of Belphebe; and the lasciviousness of Helenora. *Spenser.*
- VIRULENCE*, *n. f.* [from *virulent*.] Mental poison; malignity; acrimony of temper; bitterness.
Disputes in religion are managed with *virulence* and bitterness. *Decay of Piety.*
It infills into their minds the utmost *virulence*, instead of that charity which is the perfection and ornament of religion. *Addison.*
The whigs might easily have maintained a majority among the clergy, if they had not too much encouraged this intemperance of speech, and *virulence* of pen, in the most profane of their party. *Swift.*